

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1-7 and 9-20 are pending in this application. Claim 8 is canceled. Claims 1, 7 and 13 are amended. Claims 1, 7, and 13 are independent.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Drawings

The drawing changes filed July 23, 2002, are approved. Included with the accompanying Letter to the Official Draftsperson is a revised formal drawing for FIG. 3 incorporating the approved proposed changes. The Examiner is requested to provide a Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, Form PTO-948, confirming approval of the formal drawings by the Official Draftsperson.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and §103(a)

Claims 1-4, 13-17, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,324,136 to Yoshida et al. Claims 7-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshida et al. in view of U.S. Patent

No. 4,611,319 to Naito. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

While not conceding the appropriateness of the rejections, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, independent claims 1 and 7 are amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 8, which is canceled.

Independent claim 1 is amended to recite a combination of steps in a method for controlling a device for recording or reproducing an optical recording medium having control information recorded in a wobbled form on a signal track having a combination of steps, including detecting a wobbled signal from a signal track for reading the control information, wherein said detecting step is carried out in a free running state in which only a focus servo is turned on.

Independent claim 7 is amend to recite a combination of steps in a method of controlling a device for recording or reproducing an optical recording medium having control information recorded in a wobbled form on a signal track having a combination of steps, including detecting a wobbled signal from a signal track for detecting the present rotating speed of the optical recording medium, wherein said detecting step is

carried out in a free running state in which only a focus servo is turned on.

Independent claim 13 is amended to recited a combination of elements in a device for controlling a device for recording or reproducing an optical recording medium having control information recorded in a wobbled form on a signal track having a combination of elements, including a tracking servo for performing tracking control on the optical recording medium, and a wobble detecting part for detecting a wobbled signal formed by wobbling from the signal track at a time when only a focus servo is turned on and the tracking servo is not operating.

It is respectfully submitted that the combinations of steps and elements set forth in independent claims 1, 7, and 13 are not anticipated or made obvious by the prior art of record, including Yoshida et al. and Naito.

The system of the present invention reads a wobble signal to get control information in a free running state in which a focus servo only is turned on while a tracking servo is turned off. Thereafter, the tracking servo is turned on so as to record or to retrieve data from the optical disc according to the control information.

In contrast to Applicants' claimed invention, Yoshida et al. merely discloses an information recorder 100 including a pickup 10, a wobble detector 18, a wobble phase locked loop (PLL) portion 120 and a spindle controller 130, as shown in FIG. 3. The wobble detector 18 receives a detection signal Sp by the pickup 10, extracts information with regard to the wobble of a groove track 2 and outputs the extracted wobble information. The wobble PLL portion 120 generates a clock signal Scl having a frequency synchronous with the wobble frequency of the groove track. However, Yoshida et al. does not teach or suggest detecting a wobbled signal from a signal track for reading the control information, wherein said detecting step is carried out in a free running state in which only a focus servo is turned on, as recited in independent claim 1. Moreover, Yoshida et al. does not teach or suggest a wobble detecting part for detecting a wobbled signal formed by wobbling from the signal track at a time when only a focus servo is turned on and the tracking servo is not operating, as recited in independent claim 13.

In rejecting claims 7-12, the Office Action relies on Naito for a teaching of first establishing a free running state and subsequently having a tracking servo engaged. Naito discloses an operation of a disc drive control system from a start of the

drive of a spindle motor to a stable state of operation. After an initial acceleration (ACC) operation, the operation of the motor is switched to a hold (HLD) operation in which the speed of rotation of the spindle motor is maintained substantially constant. During the HLD operation, a detection of a focus servo locking state is performed. If the focus servo is locked, then a tracking servo loop is turned on and the operation of the motor is switched to a frame sync operation after locking of the tracking servo is completed. See column 14, lines 23-67.

Nowhere does Naito teach or suggest the detection of a wobble signal, let alone the detection of a wobble signal in a free running state in which only a focus servo is turned on, as recited in independent claim 7.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the cited art fails to anticipate or render obvious the presently claimed invention, and withdrawal of the rejections based thereon is respectfully requested. Independent claims 1, 7, and 13 are in condition for allowance. Since the remaining claims depend directly or indirectly from allowable independent claims, they are also allowable for at least the same reasons as set forth above, as well as for the additional limitations

provided by these claims. Accordingly, all claims should be allowable.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and that the present application is in condition for allowance.

However, if there are any outstanding issues, the Examiner is invited to telephone Sam Bhattacharya, Reg. No. 48,107, at 703-205-8000, in an effort to expedite prosecution.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments

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MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS

Please **cancel claim 8** without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please **amend claims 1, 7 and 13** as follows:

1. (Twice amended) A method for controlling a device for recording or reproducing an optical recording medium having control information recorded in a wobbled form on a signal track, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) detecting a wobbled signal from a signal track for reading the control information, wherein said detecting step is carried out in a free running state in which only a focus servo is turned on; and[,]

(b) performing tracking control using a tracking servo after the detection of the wobbled signal.

7. (Twice amended) A method for controlling a device for recording or reproducing an optical recording medium having control information recorded in a wobbled form on a signal track, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) detecting a wobbled signal from a signal track for detecting the present rotating speed of the optical recording medium, wherein said detecting step is carried out in a free running state in which only a focus servo is turned on;

(b) fixing a target rotating speed of the optical recording medium with reference to the detected present rotating speed of the optical recording medium, and controlling the optical recording medium to the target rotating speed; and[,]

(c) turning on a tracking servo for a regular recording or reproduction after the target rotating speed of the optical recording medium has been fixed with reference to the wobbled signal.

13. (Twice amended) A device for controlling a device for recording or reproducing an optical recording medium having control information recorded in a wobbled form on a signal track, the device comprising:

a tracking servo for performing tracking control on the optical recording medium;

a wobble detecting part for detecting a wobbled signal formed by wobbling from the signal track at a time when only a focus servo is turned on and the tracking servo is not operating;

an information reading part for reading control information from the detected wobbled signal; and[,]

Serial No 09/741,170
Docket No. 465-791P
Art Unit 2653
Page 13

a servo controlling part for using the control information
in a regular recording or reproduction.